



Jim E. Cowles
Shareholder

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Practice Areas

- Aviation
- Commercial / Business Litigation
- Tort Litigation
- Premises Liability
- Product Liability
- Professional Liability
- Construction Litigation



Practice Emphasis

Jim E. Cowles is a Shareholder in the Commercial / Business and Tort Litigation Sections of Cowles & Thompson. His experience of more than 550 jury trials has rendered him the senior trial attorney in the firm, with a practice consisting of representation of a wide variety of clients in the areas of commercial litigation, professional liability and construction law.

Education and Court Admissions

- L.L.B., University of Texas at Austin, 1961
- B.B.A. University of Texas at Austin, 1958
- Admitted to the State Bar of Texas, 1961
- United States Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas
- Texas Supreme Court
- All State Courts

Memberships, Associations, Committees

- Member, State Bar of Texas
- Member, Defense Research Institute
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Texas Association of Defense Counsel
- Member, International Association of Defense Counsel
- Member, Defense Research Institute
- Former Member, American Board of Trial Advocates
- Former Member, College of the State Bar of Texas
- Committee for a Qualified Judiciary (1992-2009)
- Master Emeritus Patrick E. Higgenbotham American Inn of Court
- Life Fellow Texas Bar Foundation

Special Honors

- Received the President's Award from the Texas Association of Defense Counsel in 1993.
- From 1993 to the present, named as One of the Best Lawyers in America.
- From 1997 to the present, named by D-Magazine as One of the Best Lawyers in Dallas.
- Named by D-Magazine as One of the Top 12 Lawyers in Dallas in 1997.
- Legends of Law 2000 presented September 22, 2000 by Tarrant County Trial Lawyers Association.
- From 2000 to the present, listed in Who's Who In America.
- In 2002, named by Texas Lawyer Weekly as One of 7 "Go-To" Lawyers in Texas for legal malpractice defense.

- From 2003 to present, named as One of Texas Super Lawyers, Texas Top 100 and Dallas/Ft. Worth Top 100. From 2003 to 2010, named as One of the Texas Super Lawyers, Corporate Counsel Edition, Super Lawyer in Business Litigation.
- From 2004 to the present, listed in Who's Who in American Law.
- In 2005, selected as One of the Top 15 Business-Defense Lawyers in Dallas/Ft. Worth by the Dallas Business Journal.
- In 2006, named as one of the Lawdragon's 500 Leading Lawyers In America.
- In 2007, selected for the Texas Lawyer Go-To Guide.
- From 2008 to present, named as one of the Best Lawyers in Dallas in D-Magazine CEO Edition.
- In 2008 and 2009, named as One of the Business Litigation Super Lawyers in the Super Lawyers, Corporate Counsel Edition.
- In 2010, named DBA Tort and Insurance Practice Section's Local Trial Lawyers Legend.
- In 2010, selected by the Texas Bar CLE and the Insurance Law Section of the State Bar of Texas as a True Texas Legend in Insurance Law (April 8, 2010).
- From 2006 to present, named One of the Lawdragon's 3000 Leading Lawyers in America.
- In 2011, named AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbard.
- In 2011, named by the American Registry to the Top 5% of America's Most Honored Professionals.
- In 2012, selected as a Top Rated Lawyer in Commercial Litigation by American Lawyer Media.
- In 2014, selected as the Best Lawyers' 2014 Dallas Personal Injury Litigation-Defendants "Lawyer of the Year."
- Selected as Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2005 at the Bench Bar Conference by the Dallas Bar Association.
- On June 28, 2010, Texas Lawyer magazine honors Jim Cowles as one of the 25 Greatest Texas Lawyers of the Past Quarter Century.
- Received Citizens Certificate of Merit awarded by the Dallas Police Department and named as Honorary Dallas Police Officer in 1971.

Publications and Speaking Engagements

- "Revenge of the Carrier" When Lawyers Become the Target of Legal Malpractice in Cases Involving Insurance (State Bar of Texas, 3rd Annual Advanced Insurance Law Course, (March 30-31, 2006)
- "Apples & Oranges or Apples & Apples (Ethics)" (TADC 2004 Spring Meeting, April 14-18, 2004)
- Speaker at the Legends of The Law Seminar (September 2000)
- "30 Minute Voir Dire" (Collin County Bench and Bar Conference, June 1999)
- "Putting it All Together" (Defense Research Institute, March 1998)
- "Closing Argument" (Texas Association of Defense Counsel Young Lawyers Seminar, June 1997)
- "Winning in the Beginning - Defense Techniques for Voir Dire and Opening Statement" (Defense Research Institute, April 1997)
- "Checklist for Avoiding Legal Malpractice" (Southern Methodist University School of Law, February 1997)
- "The Biggest Developments in Insurance Law" (Texas Lawyer, December 16, 1996)
- "Alternative Fee Proposals" (Texas Association of Defense Counsel Seminar, August 1996)
- "Developments in Insurance" (Texas Lawyer, December 18, 1995)
- "Child Molestation Damage Claims" (Texas Association of Defense Counsel, Spring Seminar, 1995)
- "Choosing and Courting a Jury" (State Bar of Texas Seminar, April 1995)
- "Responsibilities of Senior and Junior Attorneys" (Texas Bar Foundation and The Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism; Texas Wesleyan and SMU Law Schools, 1994)
- "Professionalism" (Texas Tech, 1993)
- "Jury Verdicts: A Sign of the Times or a Disaster" (Texas Association of Defense Counsel, Fall Seminar, 1993)
- "Anatomy of a Trial Lawyer" (Texas Association of Defense Counsel, Rookie Seminar, 1993)
- "Voir Dire and Jury Selection in a Medical Malpractice Case" (Southern Methodist University: Litigating the Medical Malpractice Case, 1993)
- "Effective Pretrial Strategy" (Dallas Bar Association, Learning from the Masters Seminar, 1992)

- "Trial Demonstration" (Southwestern Legal Foundation: Academy of American and International Law, 1991)
- "Medical Malpractice" (University of Texas Medical School, 1991)
- "Medicine for Lawyers" (State Bar of Texas, 1991)
- "Current Issues in Medical Malpractice Cases" (Tarrant County Civil Trial Lawyers Association, 1991)
- "Firm Economics" (Texas Association of Defense Counsel, 1991)
- "Cross-Examining Economic Experts" (Texas Association of Defense Counsel, 1991)